

Application Serial No.: 09/765,772  
Attorney's Docket No.: 06618-581001

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) A method of recognizing handwriting, comprising:

obtaining a sample of handwriting;

segmenting said sample into separate handwritten words; and

Application Serial No.: 09/765,772  
Attorney's Docket No.: 06618-581001

attempting to recognize a whole handwritten word without attempting to recognize any individual letter of the whole handwritten word, by categorizing a whole of said handwritten word according to its overall silhouette; and

wherein said categorizing comprises categorizing positions of features in said handwritten word, and categorizing first syllable blends of said handwritten word.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:

analyzing a sample of handwriting by analyzing a whole word of said sample at any one time, said analyzing comprising (1) forming information indicative of a silhouette of said whole word, wherein said silhouette information includes prime profiles

Application Serial No.: 09/765,772  
Attorney's Docket No.:06618-581001

indicative of specified features, used to form concatenations of said prime profiles which concatenation describe combinations of specified features, (2) analyzing slope sequences of the handwriting, (3) analyzing N-S profiles of the handwriting, and (4) analyzing cavities within said handwriting, and (2) comparing said information with a database of information about other analysis information.

16. (Original) A method as in claim 15, wherein said database of information comprises a database of information obtained from a list of possible words.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) A method as in claim 15, wherein said silhouette information includes information indicative of high parts in the word and low parts in the word, and positions of said high parts and low parts in the word.

19. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

analyzing a sample of handwriting by analyzing a whole word of said sample at any one time, said analyzing comprising forming information indicative of a silhouette of said whole

Application Serial No.: 09/765,772  
Attorney's Docket No.: 06618-581001

word, and comparing said information with a database of information about other silhouettes, wherein said silhouette information includes prime profiles indicative of specified features, and concatenated profiles indicative of combinations of specified features; and

wherein said silhouette information includes information about first syllable blends in the word.

20. (Original) A method as in claim 18, wherein said silhouette information also includes information about first syllable blends in the word.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 18, wherein each of a plurality of silhouette information is provided with a number.

23. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 18, wherein each feature is assigned a number.